

an impeller for mixing molten metal, the impeller comprising two or more blades and a bore for receiving the second end of the drive shaft; and

C2 a fastener to secure the second end to the impeller, the fastener connected to the second end of the drive shaft and positioned beneath the impeller.

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C3 47. A device for generating a downward stream of molten metal, the device comprising:

a drive source;

a drive shaft having a first end connected to the drive source and a second end;

and

an open impeller having a plurality of outward extending blades wherein each of the plurality of blades has a portion that directs molten metal at least partially downward, and each of the blades has a height and a width, the height being less than four times the width, and wherein the impeller further includes a tapered, non-threaded bore extending therethrough.

48. The device of claim 47 wherein the portion is an angled surface.

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Please cancel claims 49 and 51-52 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following claims:

C4 53. The drive shaft of claim 35 wherein the shaft is comprised of graphite.

54. The drive shaft of claim 25 wherein the first end of the shaft is connected to a coupling.

55. The drive shaft of claim 25 wherein the threaded portion has 4" - 4½" U.N.C. threads.

56. The drive shaft of claim 25 wherein the threaded portion is positioned entirely beneath the impeller when the drive shaft is connected to the impeller.

57. The impeller of claim 38 wherein the impeller is comprised of graphite.